

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1           Claim 1. (*Previously Presented*) A method for stretching and mounting a screen  
2   printing screen, comprising:  
3           providing an outer frame with two ends generally perpendicular to a print  
4   direction;  
5           providing an inner frame with two print direction sides generally parallel to the  
6   print direction;  
7           providing a screen/mesh with two print direction sides and two ends, the print  
8   direction sides being generally parallel to the print direction and the ends being generally  
9   perpendicular to the print direction;  
10          clamping an end of the screen/mesh;  
11          applying significant tension forces to the screen/mesh in the print direction to  
12   produce a stretched screen/mesh;  
13          moving the ends of the outer frame to contact the stretched screen/mesh;  
14          attaching the stretched screen/mesh to the ends of the outer frame;  
15          trimming excess screen/mesh along the print direction;  
16          moving the inner frame to contact the screen/mesh;  
17          attaching the screen/mesh to the print direction sides of the inner frame; and  
18          providing imaging/printing on the screen/mesh.

1           Claim 2. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, further  
2     comprising applying tension forces to the screen/mesh in a direction perpendicular to the  
3     print direction that are lower than the applied significant forces in the print direction.

1           Claim 3. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, further  
2     comprising applying small lateral forces to the screen/mesh perpendicular to the print  
3     direction prior to clamping or stretching the screen/mesh to ensure the screen/mesh is flat,  
4     with no significant non-uniformities/wrinkles.

1           Claim 4. (*Currently Amended*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2     clamping step further comprises:  
3             positioning the outer frame; and  
4             clamping the end of the screen/mesh to ~~[[an]]~~ one end of the outer frame.

1           Claim 5. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2     providing a screen/mesh step further comprises:  
3             applying a strip of material to each print direction side of the screen/mesh to  
4     provide a seal against fluid encroachment in a bond between the screen/mesh and the  
5     inner frame.

1           Claim 6. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   attaching step further comprises attaching the screen/mesh to the inner frame by using  
3   spray adhesive, adhesive glue, or double sided self-adhesive tape.

1           Claim 7. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   providing an inner frame step further comprises providing the inner frame in a fixed  
3   format.

1           Claim 8. (*Currently Amended*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   providing an inner frame step further comprise:

3           providing the inner frame in a multi-piece format with plural pieces and  
4   connection pieces; and

5           applying lateral tension forces to the screen/mesh in a direction perpendicular to  
6   the print direction through lateral fixed displacements of movements of the plural pieces  
7   or the connection pieces of the multi-piece inner frame relative to each other.

1           Claim 9. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   clamping an end of the screen/mesh step further comprises clamping one of the two ends  
3   of the screen/mesh before stretching and clamping the other of the two ends.

1           Claim 10. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   providing an inner frame step further comprises attaching ink/fluid barriers to the inner  
3   frame.

1           Claim 11. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 10, wherein the  
2   attaching ink/fluid barriers to the inner frame step further comprises attaching using hook  
3   and loop fasteners, spray adhesive, liquid adhesive, self adhesive double sided tape,  
4   mechanical locking elements, or single sided adhesive tape.

1           Claim 12. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   providing a screen/mesh step further comprises providing the screen/mesh as one or more  
3   screens/meshes on a roll.

1           Claim 13. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 12, wherein the  
2   providing a screen/mesh step further comprises:  
3           applying a strip of material to each print direction side of the one or more  
4   screens/meshes to provide an attachment point, support, and a seal against fluid  
5   encroachment in a bond between the one or more screens/meshes and the inner frame.

1           Claim 14. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 12, wherein the  
2   providing a screen/mesh step further comprises separating individual screen/mesh pieces  
3   from the one or more screens/meshes for shipping and storage, and providing the  
4   separated individual screen/mesh pieces with a protective material.

1           Claim 15. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 14, wherein the  
2   providing a screen/mesh step further comprises:  
3           applying a strip of material to each print direction side of the separated individual  
4   screen/mesh pieces to provide an attachment point, support, and a seal against fluid  
5   encroachment in a bond between the separated individual screen/mesh pieces and the  
6   inner frame.

1           Claim 16. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2   providing a screen/mesh step further comprises providing the screen/mesh as individual  
3   pre-cut pieces that are edge sealed to ensure dimensional stability and integrity.

1           Claim 17. (*Previously Presented*) The method according to claim 16, wherein the  
2     providing a screen/mesh step further comprises:

3           applying a strip of material to each print direction side of the individual pre-cut  
4     pieces to provide an attachment point, support, and a seal against fluid encroachment in a  
5     bond between the individual pre-cut pieces and the inner frame.

1           Claim 18. (*Previously Presented*) An apparatus for stretching and mounting a  
2     screen printing screen, the apparatus comprising:

3           an inner frame with two print direction sides for attaching to print direction sides  
4     of a screen/mesh, said sides of said inner frame being positionable generally parallel to a  
5     print direction; and

6           an outer frame with two ends for attaching to ends of a screen mesh, said ends of  
7     said outer frame being positionable generally perpendicular to the print direction, said  
8     outer frame being placeable outside the inner frame,

9           wherein the inner and outer frames do not connect, support, or constrain each  
10    other to provide tension, and enable application of significant tension forces to the  
11    screen/mesh in the print direction.

1           Claim 19. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein  
2     the two print direction sides of the inner frame can apply tension forces to the  
3     screen/mesh in a direction perpendicular to the print direction that are lower than applied  
4     significant forces in the print direction.

1           Claim 20. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein  
2     the apparatus can apply small lateral forces to the screen/mesh perpendicular to the print  
3     direction prior to clamping or stretching the screen/mesh to ensure the screen/mesh is flat,  
4     with no significant non-uniformities/wrinkles.

1           Claim 21. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, further  
2     comprising a positioning device configured to position the outer frame, and clamp  
3     elements configured to clamp the screen/mesh to the outer frame after the outer frame is  
4     positioned.

Claim 22 (*Canceled*)

1           Claim 23. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, further  
2     comprising attachment means for attaching the screen/mesh to the inner frame by using  
3     spray adhesive, adhesive glue, or double sided self-adhesive tape.

1           Claim 24. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein  
2   the inner frame is configured in a fixed format.

1           Claim 25. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein  
2   the inner frame is configured in a multi-piece format with plural pieces and connection  
3   pieces, and is configured to apply lateral tension forces in a direction perpendicular to the  
4   print direction to the screen/mesh through lateral fixed displacements of movements of  
5   the plural pieces or the connection pieces of the multi-piece inner frame relative to each  
6   other.

1           Claim 26. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, further  
2   comprising clamping means for clamping one of the two ends of the screen/mesh before  
3   stretching and clamping the other of the two ends.

1           Claim 27. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, further  
2   comprising ink/fluid barriers attached to the inner frame, said ink/fluid barriers providing  
3   ink/fluid retention for controlled transfer of ink during a printing period to a screen/mesh  
4   with two print direction sides and two ends, the print direction sides being generally  
5   parallel to a print direction and the ends being generally perpendicular to the print  
6   direction.



1           Claim 28. (*Currently Amended*) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[18]]~~ 27,  
2   wherein the ink/fluid barriers are attached to the inner frame using hook and loop  
3   fasteners, spray adhesive, liquid adhesive, self adhesive double sided tape, mechanical  
4   locking elements, or single sided adhesive tape.

1           Claim 29. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, in  
2   combination with a screen/mesh configured as one or more screens/meshes on a roll, the  
3   screen/mesh having two print direction sides and two ends, the print direction sides being  
4   generally parallel to the print direction and the ends being generally perpendicular to the  
5   print direction.

1           Claim 30. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein  
2   the one or more screens/meshes are configured with a strip of material on each print  
3   direction side of the one or more screens/meshes to provide an attachment point, support,  
4   and a seal against fluid encroachment in a bond between the one or more screens/meshes  
5   and the inner frame.

1           Claim 31. (*Currently Amended*) The apparatus according to claim ~~29, wherein the~~  
2   ~~screen/mesh is 18, in combination with a screen/mesh~~ 18, in combination with a screen/mesh configured as a separate individual  
3   screen/mesh piece with a protective material for shipping and storage.

1           Claim 32. (*Currently Amended*) The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the  
2   separate individual screen/mesh piece includes a strip of material on each print direction  
3   side to provide an attachment point, support, and a seal against fluid encroachment in a  
4   bond between the separated individual screen/mesh pieces and the inner frame.

1           Claim 33. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 18, in  
2   combination with a screen/mesh configured as individual pre-cut pieces that are edge  
3   sealed to ensure dimensional stability and integrity, the screen/mesh having two print  
4   direction sides and two ends, the print direction sides being generally parallel to the print  
5   direction and the ends being generally perpendicular to the print direction.

1           Claim 34. (*Previously Presented*) The apparatus according to claim 33, wherein  
2   the pre-cut pieces each include a strip of material on each print direction side to provide  
3   an attachment point, support, and a seal against fluid encroachment in a bond between the  
4   individual pre-cut pieces and the inner frame.

Claims 35-50 (*Canceled*)